

BIBLE CHRONOLOGY

AUCHINCLOSS



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BIBLE CHRONOLOGY

FROM

ABRAHAM TO THE CHRISTIAN ERA

BY

W. S. AUCHINCLOSS, C.E.

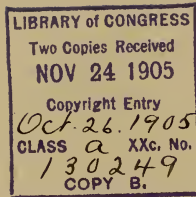
AUTHOR OF THE "BOOK OF DANIEL UNLOCKED"

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PREFACE.

IN this age of railroad travel, whoever owns a chronometer of such erratic construction that it varies anywhere from 42 minutes *ahead* of time to 63 minutes *behind* time, would surely give it up as a hopeless case and would naturally seek one upon which he could place implicit confidence. The same want of reliability is true of that chronology, which for so long a time has been identified with the King James version of the Bible, only its inaccuracies are counted by *years* and not by minutes. Now that the world has a Revised Version of the Bible, the time has come for it to adopt a Revised Chronology in keeping with the statements of the Bible. We herewith submit a system the outcome of a careful comparison of Scripture with Scripture, also the product of a geometrical plotting of events to a mathematical scale. [Copies of these charts will be found in the Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Denver and San Francisco Public Libraries.] They were made for the purpose of bringing out clearly the mutual relation of events and settling all points of difference that could not accurately be determined otherwise.

W. S. A.

A FEW SAMPLES OF ANTIQUATED CHRONOLOGY.

60 Years Thrown Away.

Ehud judged Israel:—

According to Judges III. 30 80 years

According to Bagster's Bible

B.C. 1325 to 1305 20 "

Thrown away . . . 60 years.

23 Years Inserted.

Othniel judged Israel:—

According to Bagster's Bible

B.C. 1405 to 1342 63 years.

According to Judges III. 11 40 "

Inserted . . . 23 years.

40 Years Concealed.

According to Bagster's Bible:—

Ibzan was judge from B.C. **1181** to 1174 = 7 years.

Elon was judge from B.C. 1174 to 1164 = 10 "

Abdon was judge from B.C. 1164 to 1156 = 8 "

Part of servitude to Philistines 1156 to **1141** = 15 "

Total 40 years.

DIRECTLY OPPOSED to its own statement:

Bagster's Bible says:

Eli was judge from B.C. **1181** to **1141** = 40 years.

EVIDENTLY MANY YEARS HAVE BEEN THROWN AWAY, INSERTED
AND CONCEALED IN
ANTIQUATED CHRONOLOGY.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

THE most reliable data, extending from Adam to Terah, the father of Abraham, gives the following dates:

Adam	B.C. 5300
The Flood	B.C. 3045
Confusion of tongues	B.C. 2633
Birth of Terah	B.C. 2112

Thus far, Bible chronology can only be classed as approximate, simply because different opinions may be held regarding the weight of evidence found in the various texts—Hebrew, Septuagint, Samaritan, and the text of Josephus. But, from Terah, the father of Abraham, onward to the time when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the Temple, and chronology connects with modern history, the periods are *exact* and the events follow each other in perfect order. The reason for this is found in the fact that the Bible has spanned this great stream of time by four arches of known length.

Span 1.	Life of Terah	205 years.	Gen. xi. 32
Span 2.	From Promise to Exodus	430 "	Exod. xii. 41
Span 3.	From Exodus to Temple	479 "	1 Kings vi. 1
Span 4.	Temple building to burning	412 "	Kings, 495–83 years.

Total width 1526 years.

In the matter of patriarchal birth-dates, we give preference to the figures of Josephus, because Vespasian made him custodian of the "Sacred Books" which Titus captured in Jerusalem and carried in triumph to Rome. These books were spread out before Josephus when he wrote his "Antiqui-

ties of the Jews," consequently his writings are the latest and best testimony we have as to the contents of those official volumes. Furthermore, the birth-periods of the patriarchs as given by him, run in unison with patriarchal ages and are free from those irregularities which characterize the Hebrew text. There is reason to believe that human life matured in those days very much as it does now. With them a man was counted old at 900 years of age, just as a man of 90 years is regarded at the present day. If then the man of 900 had a son at 200 years, the man of 90 would be expected to have a son at 20 years. All of which seems perfectly natural, besides it harmonizes with the figures that Josephus copied out of the "Sacred Books."

As to Nahor, the Hebrew text says he was 29 years old when Terah was born. The Samaritan says 79 years, while copies of the Septuagint range from 79 to 179 years. Josephus is silent. In this case alone, we are compelled to take independent action. We are reminded that Terah himself was 130 years old when Abraham was born, and since in the majority of instances Josephus' figures exceed those of the Hebrew text by 100 years, we shall follow his example and place the age of Nahor when Terah was born at 129 years. According to the Hebrew text Arphaxad was born 2 years after the Flood, Josephus says 12 years. The latter number is by far the most probable because Arphaxad was not the eldest son of Shem, on the contrary he was his third son born after the Flood.

We shall now turn our attention to the great stream of time that ran between Terah and the destruction of the Temple.

Only one point in this span requires special attention. When Terah died at 205 years of age his son Abraham was 75 years old, consequently Terah was 130 years old when Abraham was born. Many infer from Gen. xi. 26 that Terah was 70 years old, but manifestly such was not the case.

Jacob's descent into Egypt was the Half-way Station in "the sojournings of the children of Israel."

From the Promise to Isaac was . . .	25 years.	
From birth of Isaac to Jacob was . . .	60 "	
From Jacob to descent into Egypt was	130 "	
		215 years.
From arrival in Egypt to death of Joseph	71 years.	
Years of oppression in Egypt . . .	144 "	215 years.
Total, [Exod. xii. 41] . . .	430 years.	

Many writers have taken the ground that the Bible **SPAN No. 3** length for this span is far too small. Some make it 573 years, while others place the figures as high as 680. *Not one of them, however, is right.* They have all lost sight of the fact that the Bible length—479 years—contemplated generations of the same length as obtained in the life of the patriarch Jacob, who was 91 years old when Joseph was born. The 479 years allows an average of about 90 years to Salmon, Boaz, Obed and Jesse, the immediate ancestors of king David. Were we to follow the expansionists in this matter, the average age for a generation would become 135 years; a perfectly preposterous figure!

We contend that the Bible number, 479 years, is absolutely correct, notwithstanding the fact that the sum of its items exceeds the number itself, because we have discovered that the trouble is located in those periods of time when the land is said to have "had rest." Four such periods are mentioned in the 3rd, 5th, and 8th chapters of the book of Judges, which covered, respectively, 40 years, 80 years, 40 years, and 40 years. From some unknown cause, ciphers have been affixed to the true numbers; that is, to the Nos. 4, 8, 4, and 4, thus making the quantities ten times too great. In like manner, see II Samuel, 15.7, a cipher has been affixed to the 4 years of Absalom, making it ten times too great, and for which no authority can be found, either in J  sephus or in the Septuagint, both of which distinctly state that the period was only 4 years in length. When these superfluous ciphers are removed, the whole time of the Judges government—379 years—is reduced to 190 years, and

the span comes out precisely 479 years, same as given in I Kings vi. 1. This correction is one of vital importance, for it preserves the integrity of the Bible statement.

Although the history—of Joshua, of the Elders and of Samuel—is given at great length, the Bible does not make an itemized statement of the years they bore rule, still it supplies ample material for measuring their entire period, which, chronologically speaking, is just as good. This appears from the following figures:

From the Exodus to the Temple	479 years
Deduct: { Wilderness	40 years.
Elders to Samuel	159 "
The Servitudes	91 "
Saul, David, and 3 yrs. Solomon	83 " 373 "
Leaving, for Joshua, the Elders and Samuel	<u>106 years.</u>

Guided by the history of their lives, we are convinced that a natural division of the entire period gives 40 years each to Joshua and Samuel, with 26 years to the Elders. We have then:

Wilderness	40 years.
Joshua and Elders	66 "
The Servitudes	91 "
The Judges	379—180 = 199 "
Saul, David, 3 of Solomon	83 "

Making, from Exodus to Temple, I Kings vi. 1 . . 479 years.

This last span is found by laying out the reigns **SPAN No. 4** of the kings of Judah and Israel, with due regard to the locking-dates given in the 1st and the 2nd book of Kings.

The period so determined equals	495 years.
Deduct: { Reign of Saul	40 years.
Reign of David	40 "
To building of Temple	3 " 83 "
From Temple building to burning	<u>412 years.</u>

We are able to check this work if we take account of the 70 Sabbatic periods—B.C. 1080 to B.C. 590—which the Jews failed to observe after they chose Saul for their king. This check incidentally serves a good purpose in respect to the reign of Amaziah, for it proves that, although his reign is said to have lasted 29 years, he only exercised the royal power for 14 years, so that the remaining 15 years belonged to the reign of his son Uzziah, who was appointed “king instead of his father.” This is confirmed by the fact that, “In the 15th year of Amaziah” . . . “Jeroboam began to rule in Samaria,” and as Jeroboam was succeeded by Zachariah in the 38th year and he by Shallum in the 39th year of Uzziah, by necessity Uzziah began to reign in Judah when Jeroboam began to rule in Samaria; in a word, 38 years of their respective reigns were simultaneous, the one in Judah, the other in Israel.

To dispel all doubt on this subject we here record the:

COTEMPORANEOUS REIGNS.

JUDAH	{ Joash's reign . . .	II Kin. xiv. 1	2 years.
	{ AMAZIAH's reign . . .	II Kin. xiv. 17	14 “
	{ Uzziah's reign . . .	II Kin. xv. 2	52 “
Total,			<u>68 years.</u>

—O—

ISRAEL	{ Pekah's reign . . .	II Kin. xv. 32	1 year.
	{ Pekahiah's reign . . .	II Kin. xv. 23	2 years.
	{ Menahem's reign . . .	II Kin. xv. 17	10 “
	{ Zachariah's } reign . . .	II Kin. xv. 8 and 13	1 “
	{ Shallum's }		
	{ JEROBOAM II's reign . . .	II Kin. xv. 8	38 “
Total,			<u>68 years.</u>

Showing that Amaziah's reign lasted 14 years, and that any attempt to change Uzziah's would throw five other reigns into confusion, which are closely locked in the Scripture narrative.

We note in passing that there was no "interregnum" between Pekah and Hoshea. Pekah reigned for 29 years and Hoshea reigned 9 years.

It is simply marvelous what a huge mass of chronological material the Bible furnishes, and, when the same has been arranged with mathematical precision, how it binds together the ages from Terah, the father of Abraham, to the time of Nebuchadnezzar, thereby coupling matters of deepest interest in the past with the beginnings of history, and effectually welding past with present into one harmonious whole.

BIBLE CHRONOLOGY.

	B.C.	Years.	Totals.
From Adam to Seth	5300 to 5070	230	
Birth of Seth to birth of Enos	5070 to 4865	205	
Birth of Enos to birth of Cainan	4865 to 4675	190	
Birth of Cainan to birth of Mahalaleel	4675 to 4505	170	
Birth of Mahalaleel to birth of Jared	4505 to 4340	165	
Birth of Jared to birth of Enoch	4340 to 4178	162	
Birth of Enoch to birth of Methusalah	4178 to 4013	165	
Birth of Methusalah to birth of Lamech	4013 to 3826	187	
Birth of Lamech to birth of Noah	3826 to 3644	182	
Birth of Noah to the Flood	3644 to 3045	599	
Adam to Flood			2255
The Flood	3045 to 3044	1	
The Flood to birth of Arphaxad	3044 to 3032	12	
Birth of Arphaxad to birth of Salah	3032 to 2897	135	
Birth of Salah to birth of Eber	2897 to 2767	130	
Birth of Eber to birth of Peleg	2767 to 2633	134	
The Confusion of Tongues	B.C. 2633		
Flood to Babel			412
Birth of Peleg to birth of Reu	2633 to 2503	130	
Birth of Reu to birth of Serug	2503 to 2373	130	
Birth of Serug to birth of Nahor	2373 to 2241	132	
History of the patriarch Job	— to —		
Birth of Nabor to birth of Terah	2241 to 2112	129	
Babel to Terah			521
Birth of Terah to birth of Abraham	2112 to 1982	130	
Birth of Abraham to the Promise	1982 to 1907	75	
SPAN No. 1			205
The Promise to birth of Isaac	1907 to 1882	25	
Birth of Isaac to birth of Jacob	1882 to 1822	60	
Birth of Jacob to birth of Joseph	1822 to 1731	91	
Birth of Joseph to descent into Egypt	1731 to 1692	39	
Arrival in Egypt to death of Joseph	1692 to 1621	71	
Years of Oppression in Egypt	1621 to 1477	144	
SPAN No. 2			430
			3823

	B.C.	Years.	Totals.
The birth of Aaron	1560		3823
The birth of Moses	1557		
Moses fled from Egypt	1517		
The birth of Caleb	1516		
THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT	1477		
The death of Miriam	1475		
The death of Aaron	1438		
The death of Moses	1437		
Israel in the Wilderness	1477 to 1437	40	
Israel crossed the Jordan	1437		
The land divided	1431		
The rule of Joshua	1437 to 1397	40	
The Elders and "No king"	1397 to 1371	26	
Servitude in Mesopotamia	1371 to 1363	8	
Othniel 1st Judge	1363 to 1359	4	
Servitude to Moabites	1359 to 1341	18	
Ehud 2nd Judge	1341 to 1334	7	
Shamgar 3rd Judge	1334 to 1333	1	
Servitude to Canaanites	1333 to 1313	20	
Deborah 4th Judge	1313 to 1309	4	
Servitude to Midianites	1309 to 1302	7	
Gideon 5th Judge	1302 to 1298	4	
Abimelech 6th Judge	1298 to 1295	3	
Tola 7th Judge	1295 to 1272	23	
History of BOAZ and RUTH	— to —		
Jair 8th Judge	1272 to 1250	22	
Servitude to Ammonites	1250 to 1232	18	
Jephthah 9th Judge	1232 to 1226	6	
Ibzan 10th Judge	1226 to 1219	7	
Elon 11th Judge	1219 to 1209	10	
Abdon 12th Judge	1209 to 1201	8	
{ Servitude to Philistines }	1201 to 1181	20	
{ Samson 13th Judge }	1181 to 1161	20	
Eli 14th Judge	1161 to 1121	40	
Samuel 15th Judge	1121 to 1081	40	
Saul 1st King	1081 to 1041	40	
Sabbatic years neglected, II Chron., 36, 21	1080 to 590		
David 2nd King	1041 to 1001	40	
Temple begun, 4th year of Solomon	998	3	
SPAN No. 3			479
Solomon (3 + 37 = 40 yrs.)	1001 to 961	37	
Kingdom divided	961		4302

JUDAH.	ISRAEL.	B.C.	Years.	Totals.
			37	4302
Rehoboam		961 to 944	17	
	Jeroboam I	961 to 929		
Abijah		944 to 941	3	
Asa		941 to 900	41	
	Nadab	929 to 928		
	Baasha	928 to 915		
	Elah [Zimri = 7 days]	915 to 914		
	Tibni and Omri . . .	914 to 910		
	Omri, alone	910 to 904		
	Ahab	904 to 884		
Jehoshaphat		900 to 877	23	
	Ahaziah	884 to 882		
	Joram	882 to 869		
Jehoram		877 to 870	7	
Ahaziah		870 to 869	1	
	Jehu	869 to 840		
Queen Athaliah . . .		869 to 863	6	
Joash		863 to 824	39	
	Jehoahaz	840 to 826		
	Jehoash	826 to 810		
Amaziah		824 to 810	14	
Uzziah		810 to 758	52	
	Jeroboam II	810 to 772		
	Zachariah and Shallum	772 to 771		
	Menahem	771 to 761		
	Pekahiah	761 to 759		
	Pekah	759 to 730		
Jotham		758 to 742	16	
Ahaz		742 to 727	15	
	Hoshea	730 to 721		
	Israel carried to Assyria	721		
Hezekiah		727 to 697	30	
Manasseh		697 to 642	55	
Amon		642 to 640	2	
Josiah		640 to 609	31	
Jehoahaz (counted with Jehoiachin)		609		
Jehoiakim		609 to 598	11	
Daniel and princes taken to Babylon		606		
Babylonian captivity		606 to 536		
Jehoiachin		598 to 597	1	
Zedekiah's reign		597 to 586	11	
SPAN No. 4				412
				4714

	B.C.	Years.	Totals.
Israel rejected (Ezek. xx. 3)	590		4714
Divine indignation	590 to 520		
Temple burnt by Nebuchadnezzar	586		
No Temple Service	585 to 515	70	
Death of Nebuchadnezzar	562		
Cyrus made King of Persia	558		
Belshazzar	541 to 538		
Cyrus took Babylon	538		
Darius the Mede	538 to 536		
Jews liberated by Cyrus	536		
Darius Hystaspes	521 to 485		
Zerubbabel's Temple begun	520		
Probation, followed by Indignation	520 to 450		
Zerubbabel's Temple finished	515		
Zerubbabel's to Nehemiah's Temple	515 to 445	70	
Xerxes king of Persia	485 to 465		
Esther, queen of Persia	478 to 472		
Artaxerxes king of Persia	465 to 425		
{ Exodus of Jews from Persia, before Passover	458		
{ "SEVENTY WEEKS" of Daniel = 490 years			
{ Passover B.C. 458 to Passover A.D. 33 = 490			
Temple restored by Nehemiah	445		
From Temple to death of Artaxerxes	445 to 425	20	
Nehemiah ruled as Governor	445 to 433		
Last date given in Old Testament	433		
History foretold by Daniel xi. chap.	425 to 163	262	
Persia conquered at Cunaxa	401		
Persia conquered by Alexander	331		
ERA OF SELEUCIDAE COMMENCED.			
{ By Greek standard, October 1st B.C.	312		
{ By Babylonian standard, March B.C.	311		
{ By Josephus' standard, October 1st B.C.	312		
{ By I and II Maccabees' October 1st B.C.	312		
Defeat of the Carthaginians	202		
{ Temple despoiled, Nov. 27th	168		
{ Asmonean Dynasty	163 to 37		
{ "Feast of Lights" Nov. 25th	165		
Judas Maccabeus, high priest	163 to 160	3	
No Asmonean high priest	160 to 153	7	
Jonathan Maccabeus, high priest	153 to 143	10	
Simon, Captain	145 to 143		
Simon, high priest	143 to 135	8	
		450	4714

	B.C.	Years.	Totals.
INDEPENDENCE DAY, MAY 4th	141	450	4714
John Hyrcanus, high priest	135 to 104	31	
Judas Aristobulus, king	104 to 103	1	
Alexander Janneus, king	103 to 76	27	
Queen Alexandra	76 to 67	9	
Birth of Herod the Great	71		
Hyrcanus II and Aristobulus	67 to 63	4	
Jerusalem taken by Pompey, May 24th . .	63		
Hyrcanus II	63 to 40	23	
Herod made Governor	54		
Antigonus	40 to 37	3	
Herod made King	40		
Herod captured Jerusalem	37		
Herod reigned	37 to 1	36	
Battle of Actium, Sept. 3rd	31		
First year of famine	24		
The Sanctuary dedicated	18		
Birth of king Agrippa	10		
Alexander and Aristobulus slain	4		
Christ born in Bethlehem	2		
Death of Herod	1		
To Christian Era		1	
Zedekiah to A.D. 1			585

Total number of years 5299

From this total of years, it is evident that the history of our race began with the year

B.C. 5300.

READ:—

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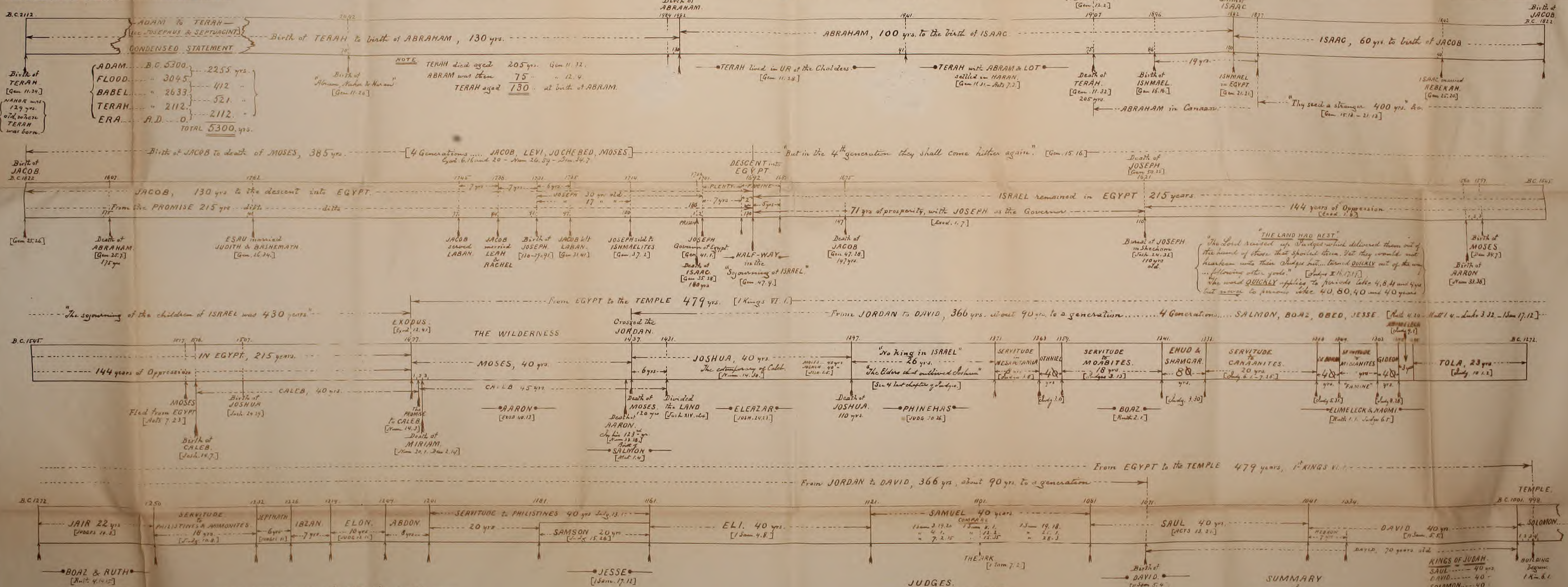
BIBLE CHRONOLOGY.

PATRIARCHS & JUDGES.

SCALE OF YEARS.



BIBLE	USHER
OTHNIEL	40 yrs. 63 yrs.
EHUD	80 " 20 "
DEBORAH	40 " 33 "
GIDEON	40 " 9 "
AMMONITES	18 " OVERLAP
ELI	40 " OVERLAP
TOTAL	258 yrs 725 yrs.



NOTE REGARDING 40, 80, 40, & 40 years.
II SAMUEL 15. 7.

HEBREW TEXT reads: "After 40 years Absalom said unto the King."
GREEK TEXT "After 4 years Absalom said unto the King."
JOSEPHUS VII. 9. "But when 4 years had passed."

Winston in his note on this passage of Josephus, reads: "The series of the history shows it could not be more than 4 years after Absalom's reconciliation to his father. The number is directly confirmed by that copy of the Septuagint version, whence the Armenian translation was made, which gives us the small number of 4 years."
We feel authorized to apply the same process of reduction to the periods of Othniel, Ehud, Deborah & Gideon as Judges, because 40, 80, 40 & 40 yrs contemplate an absurd allowance of 135 years to a generation, while the shorter lengths require only 90 years to a generation. A figure, consistent with the times, and in perfect harmony with the Bible statement, that from EXODUS to the TEMPLE was 479 years.

JUDGES.	BIBLE	CHART
OTHNIEL	40 yrs.	4 yrs.
EHUD & SHAMGAR	80 "	8 "
DEBORAH	40 "	4 "
GIDEON	40 "	4 "
ABIMELECH	3 "	3 "
TOLA	23 "	23 "
JAIR	22 "	22 "
JEPHTHAH	6 "	6 "
IBZAN	7 "	7 "
ELON	10 "	10 "
ABDON	8 "	8 "
SAMSON	20 "	20 "
ELI	40 "	40 "
SAMUEL	40 "	40 "
TOTAL	379 yrs.	199 yrs.

SERVITUDES.	YEARS
MESAPOTAMIA	8 yrs.
MOABITES	18 "
CANAANITES	20 "
MIDIANITES	7 "
AMMONITES	18 "
PHILISTINES	20 "
TOTAL	91 years.

SUMMARY OF EXODUS TO THE TEMPLE. WILDERNESS 40 yrs. JOSHUA & ELDERS 66. SERVITUDES 91. JUDGES 379. 199. SAUL, DAVID & TEMPLE 83. TOTAL 479 years.

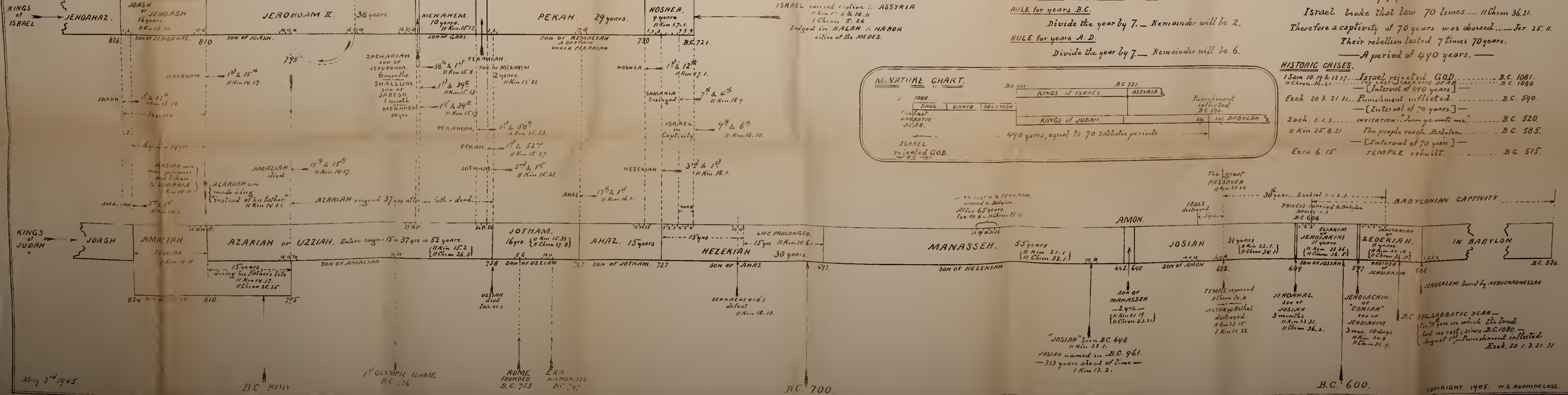
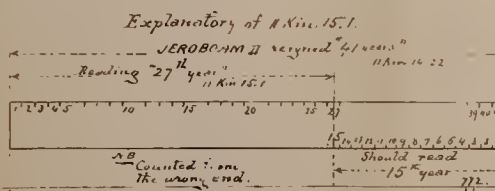
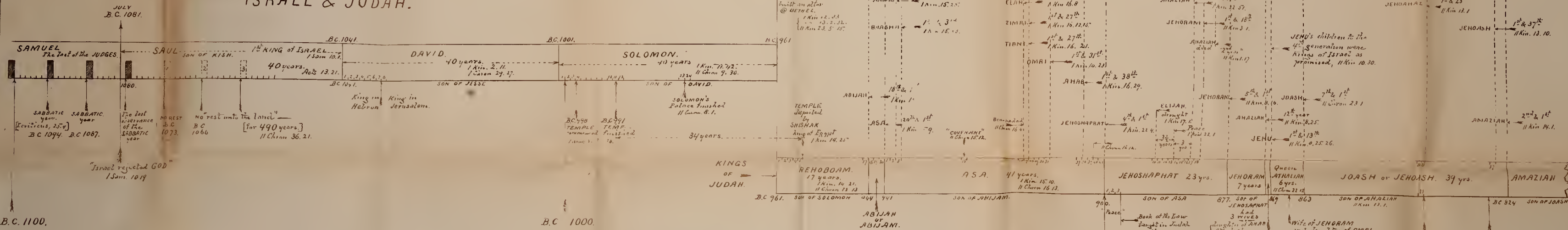
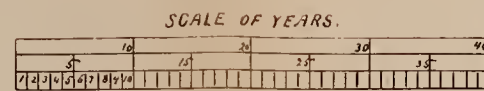
And it came to pass in the 480th year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the 4th year of Solomon's reign, he began to build the house of the Lord. (1 Kings VI. 1.)

KINGS OF JUDAH.	YEARS
SAUL	40 yrs.
DAVID	40 "
SOLOMON	40 "
REHOBOAM	17 "
ABIAH	3 "
ASA	41 "
JEHOASHAPHAT	23 "
JEHOAHASH	7 "
AZARIAH	1 "
ATHALIAH	6 "
JORAH	39 "
AMAZIAH	14 "
UZIAH	52 "
JOTHAM	16 "
AHAZ	15 "
HEZEKIAH	30 "
MANASSEH	55 "
AMON	2 "
JOASH	31 "
JEHOIAH	1 "
JEHOIAKIM	11 "
JEHOIAKIN	1 "
SEDEKIAH	11 "
TOTAL	495 years.

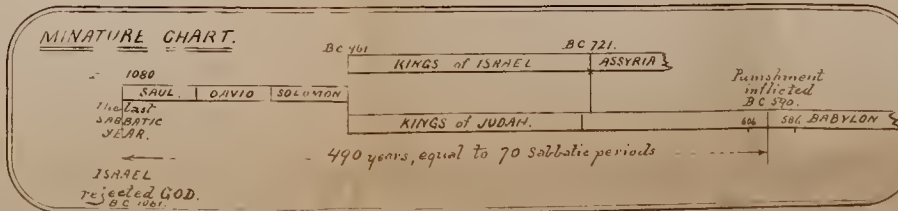
TO BIBLE STUDENTS.
THIS CHRONOLOGY HARMONIZES THE BIBLE RECORD.
USHER'S CHRONOLOGY MAKES IT INCONSISTENT

BIBLE CHRONOLOGY.

KINGS OF ISRAEL & JUDAH.



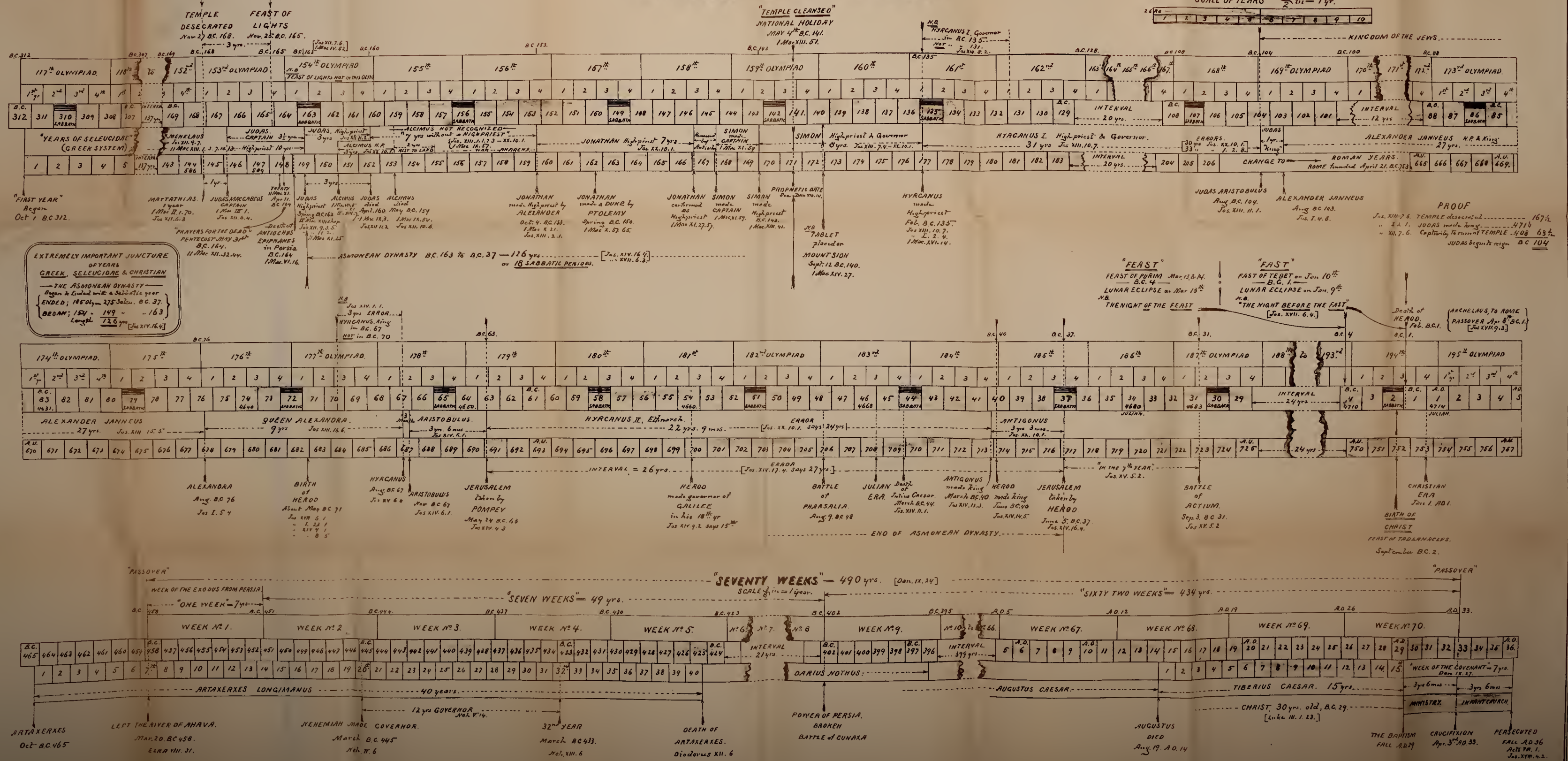
HOW TO FIND A SABBATIC YEAR?
RULE for years B.C.
Divide the year by 7. Remainder will be 2.
RULE for years A.D.
Divide the year by 7. Remainder will be 6.

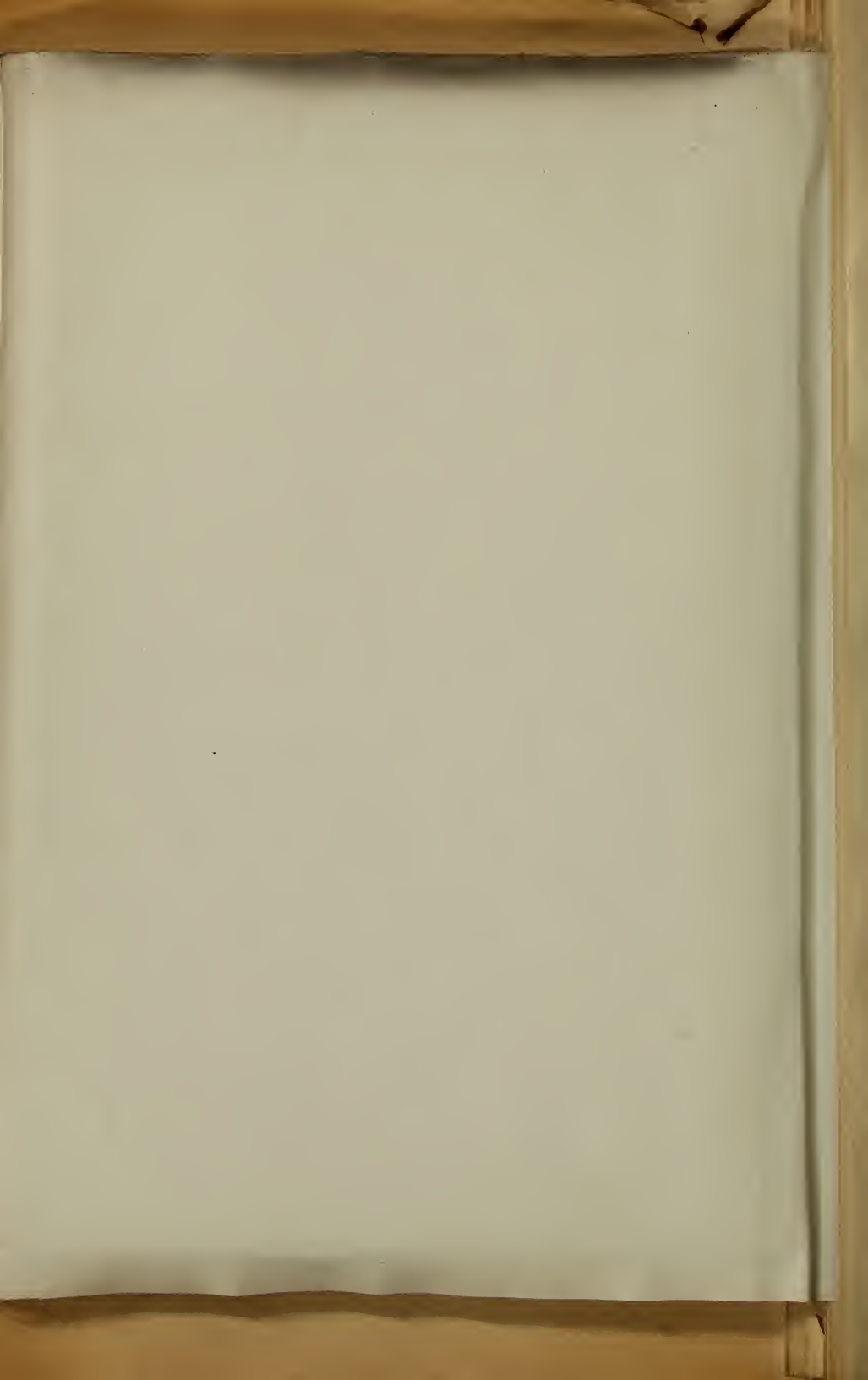


SABBATIC YEARS.
The Mosaic Law ordered "a sabbath of rest unto the land" once every 7 years. Lev. 25:4
Israel broke that law 70 times. 1 Chron. 36:21.
Therefore a captivity of 70 years was decreed. Jer. 25:11.
Their rebellion lasted 7 times 70 years. — A period of 490 years. —

HISTORIC CRISES.
1 Sam. 10:19 & 12:11. Israel rejected GOD. B.C. 1081.
1 Chron. 36:21. THE LAST SABBATIC YEAR. B.C. 1080.
Ezek. 20:3, 21:31. Punishment inflicted. B.C. 590.
[Interval of 70 years.]
Zech. 1:4, 3. INVITATION: Turn ye unto me. B.C. 520.
1 Kin. 25:8, 21. The people reach Babylon. B.C. 585.
[Interval of 70 years.]
Ezra 6:15. TEMPLE rebuilt. B.C. 515.

BIBLE CHRONOLOGY.





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